

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE
AND THE PETER AND JUDY JACKSON MUSIC PROGRAM PRESENT

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY JAZZ FESTIVAL 2023

EAR ALLIANCE

A Concert of Music by Jerry Tabor



**Featuring Jerry Tabor (Guitar)
and Festival Guests**

Former SU Jazz Students:

Tom Davis, trumpeter

Alex Cooper, piano

Grant Gabriele, bass

Philip Thomas, drums

Wednesday, May 3, 2023
Holloway Hall Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

Make Tomorrow Yours

PROGRAM

All Music Composed and Arranged by Jerry Tabor

In His Own Way (for dad, 2022)

Scaffolding(for Brooke, 2022)

The Way She Remembers Her(for Neela, 2022)

Circle Back.....(for Zayn, 2022)

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PERFORMERS

Tom Davis’ professional career as a trumpeter includes playing many styles of music, including chamber, orchestral and solo music, jazz combo, and big band. He is an associate artist with the Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass and has played lead trumpet with Bobby Shew, Chris Vadala, Mark Gross, Alex Norris and the Tim Laushey Jazz Orchestra. Playing lead and solo trumpet in countless venues – most recently, the American Music Theatre in Lancaster, PA – Tom has been involved in over 60 regional musical productions, including *West Side Story*, *Hairspray*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Ragtime*. Davis was an iconic lead trumpet player and soloist with the Delmarva Big Band, having been featured on charts performed by Maynard Ferguson, Doc Severinsen and Wayne Bergeron.

Davis is a Baltimore native and began playing trumpet at age 9. He studied with former Army Sergeant and trumpeter Douglas Bull, Peabody and Penn State Professor Dr. Langston Fitzgerald III, and his primary teacher, Peabody and UMBC Professor Wayne Cameron. His music career took a hiatus in 1988 when Davis joined the Maryland State Police. Prior to retiring, Davis refreshed his music career and returned to college pursuing a life goal of obtaining a college degree in music - instrumental performance. He attended Salisbury University where he won jazz scholarships and the Guerrieri Award for Best Recital and Academic Achievement, graduating with honors in 2016. During his comeback to trumpet beginning in 2009, Davis studied with world-renowned lead trumpet player Roger Ingram and international award-winning classical trumpeter Rodney Marsalis. He also had great assistance from Wayne DuMaine, Jose Sibaja, Kurt Dupuis and Professor Lee Knier, all of whom contributed immensely to Davis’ continued musical growth.

Alex Cooper is a conductor, pianist, singer, songwriter and guitarist. Currently, he serves as worship pastor at Mariners Church in Annapolis, MD, where he oversees choral activities in addition to a contemporary music and production ensemble of approximately 30 members. Additionally, Cooper serves as a staff accompanist and adjudicator for the APEX Arts Magnet Program in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, MD), where he has also previously served as a voice instructor. He completed his Master of Music in choral conducting at Penn State University, studying primarily with Grammy Award-winning conductor Dr. Christopher Kiver, and completed his B.A. in music from Salisbury University (2017), studying piano with Dr. Linda Cockey, conducting with Dr. William Folger and composition with Dr. Jerry Tabor. He has experience working with choral ensembles of all ages and ability levels, and is in demand as a guest conductor, accompanist, jazz pianist, worship leader and songwriter. He's had the great pleasure to conduct choral ensembles at several notable venues, including Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall and the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, Germany. Recently, Cooper has also developed a freelance career as a solo performer (jazz piano, piano/vocals, guitar/vocals) and is in demand for these respective roles in the greater Annapolis/Baltimore/Washington, DC area. He has nearly two decades of experience as a church musician and has maintained a private piano, voice and guitar teaching studio throughout his career. Cooper resides in the Annapolis, MD, area with his wife, Jess and their three children.

Grant Gabriele has been playing jazz since high school, when he was selected for the All State Jazz Ensemble. Having been the recipient of multiple ensemble awards while an undergraduate at SU, he played in the Jazz Ensemble, the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra and the Salisbury Youth Orchestra. Gabriele studied music technology at SU and finished his degree in management in 2021. Gabriele is currently a production assistant and builds bass guitars at Brubaker Instruments in Baltimore.

Philip Thomas, a native of Wilmington, DE, and Cleveland, OH, was first exposed to music at age of 4 in church. The church became Thomas' primary source for musical development. He studied percussion at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and graduated from Salisbury University in 2010. During his tenure in college, Thomas was afforded the opportunity to tour Ghana, Africa, as well as perform with musicians such as Wynton Marsalis, Onaje Allen Gumbs, Wycliffe Gordon, the late Chris Vadala, Bilal and many more. Since graduating college in 2010, Thomas has been played throughout the DC-Maryland-Virginia region. In 2017, he formed the Philip Thomas group, now renamed "(reimagine)." This fellowship of musicians performs fresh and innovative renditions of music from the American song book.

PROGRAM

PERFORMERS

Jerry Tabor composes electroacoustic and experimental acoustic music, much of which is either within or extending the jazz idiom. Perhaps one of the most enduring aspects of his experimental work is his use of open structures that highlight unique performer and instrumental characteristics. He believes that by designing structures in which non-intention is unrelenting, the music reveals sound as an authentic extension of whoever is acting within the structure. This approach has established new frameworks for improvisation that are not necessarily dependent upon jazz tradition or style and are, therefore, free of historical contexts. His recent jazz compositions explore ambiguous formal designs that offer performers flexible improvisational contexts and Jerry continues to research ways to design jazz materials that lead to open improvisation and ensemble interactions.

Tabor's experimental and computer music has been featured at festivals and conferences throughout the United States and in Europe over the past 30 years. He is also a respected editor and published author. Among his contributions are his book, titled *Otto Laske: Navigating New Musical Horizons*, and the *Instructors Manual* for the second edition of the popular jazz text, *Jazz: The First 100 Years*. His computer music piece, *lemon;birch*, is the subject of an analytical essay by the renowned music theorist Thomas DeLio (Routledge Press).

Between 2013 and 2020, while at the helm of the respected independent contemporary music label Neuma Records, Tabor executive-produced many albums, edited and designed album covers, and published scores by important composers, including Pulitzer Prize-winner Roger Reynolds, Annea Lockwood, Richard Karpen, James Dashow, Linda Dusman, Ruth Loman and others.

Tabor holds Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music in composition from the University of Maryland College Park. His Bachelor of Music in theory and composition is from the University of New Mexico where he took master classes with such composers as Milton Babbitt and Michael Colgrass.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**Bobbi Biron Theatre Program
Presents The Maids**

May 4-7*
7:30 p.m. & 2 p.m.*
Fulton Hall, Black Box Theatre

University & Salisbury Chorales

Saturday, May 6
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Salisbury Pops

Tuesday, May 9
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

Dalton Bosserman Recital

Friday, May 12
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall, Great Hall

**Salisbury Symphony Orchestra
Summer Passport**

Featuring John Kurokawa
Saturday, May 13
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

PRESTO

Tuesday, May 16
5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Holloway Hall, Great Hall

Salisbury Youth Orchestra

Thursday, May 18
7:30 p.m.
Holloway Hall Auditorium

*For tickets, visit: www.salisbury.edu/performingarts
For more information, email: fultonboxoffice@salisbury.edu*

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John Raley, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*
Colleen Clark, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*
Suzanna Mallow, *Production Director, Department of Music, Theatre & Dance*
Brooke Church, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*
Shawn Stone, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*
Jeff Hahn, *Piano Technician, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*
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Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Fulton School of Liberal Arts
Salisbury University | 1101 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801
Phone: 410-543-6385 | Fax: 410-548-3002 | Email: cmclark@salisbury.edu



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